

~~Attorney's Docket No.:~~ 10559-887001/P17697

Amendment to the Claims:

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This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

placing mechanically clamping a pellicle within an outer pellicle frame and an inner pellicle frame;

heating the pellicle, the outer pellicle frame, and the inner pellicle frame above a glass transition temperature of the pellicle and below a melting temperature of the pellicle to attach the pellicle to at least one of the outer pellicle frame and the inner pellicle frame;

placing a polymer layer between a reticle and a selected one of the outer pellicle frame and the inner pellicle frame;
and

heating the polymer layer to a pre-determined temperature to attach the reticle to the selected pellicle frame;

wherein the inner pellicle frame has a lower coefficient of thermal expansion than the outer pellicle frame and the polymer layer.

2. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the polymer layer has a melting point between about 60 to 150 degrees Celsius.

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3. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said heating heats the polymer layer between about 45 to 150 degrees Celsius.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, further comprising applying pressure to the reticle and the selected pellicle frame during said heating.

5. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the polymer layer comprises a thermoplastic.

6. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising forming a hermetic seal between the reticle and the pellicle frame.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, further comprising cutting the polymer layer to match a bottom surface area of the selected pellicle frame.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein said heating is local to the polymer layer bonding the selected pellicle frame to the reticle.

9-17. (Canceled).

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18. (New) The method of Claim 1, wherein the pellicle is mechanically clamped within the outer pellicle frame and the inner pellicle frame.

19. (New) The method of Claim 1, wherein the inner pellicle frame has a lower coefficient of thermal expansion than the outer pellicle frame and the polymer layer.

20. (New) The method of Claim 1, wherein the inner pellicle frame has a lower coefficient of thermal expansion than the polymer layer and the same coefficient of thermal expansion as the outer pellicle frame.